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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Giannotta et al.

Int. Appl. No.

PCT/EP2005/050174

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January 17, 2005

For

HYBRID PROTEINS OF ACTIVE-

SITE SERINE BETA-

LACTAMASE

Examiner

Unknown

Group Art Unit

Unknown

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified US National Phase application as follows

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 7 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12 of this paper.